

Message Text

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62

ACTION AID-20

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COME-00 FDRE-00 PC-15 USIA-15 DODE-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NEA-10 DRC-01 /170 W

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R 041300Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1589

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 926

AFDROUGHT

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: DROUGHT SITREP, MAURITANIA

BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN

PARIS FOR BROWN

ROME FOR FODAG

LONDON FOR BAAS

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING REPORT, JUST SUBMITTED ROME BY WFP REP NOUAKCHOTT, SUMMARIZES SHARPLY REDUCED HARVEST AND PASTURAGE PROSPECTS, RAINFALL, AIRLIFT, NEW EMERGENCY GRAIN SHIPMENTS, OVERLAND TRANSPORT AND PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES 1974 EMERGENCY GRAIN IMPORT NEEDS.

1. HARVEST, PASTURAGE, RAINFALL: THOUGH COMPLETE FINAL FIGURES FOR MONTH NOT YET AVAILABLE, SEPTEMBER RAINFALL BELOW UNCLASSIFIED

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NORMAL IN MOST AREAS WITH EXCEPTION FOURTH REGION (KAEDI).

CEREAL CROP SHORTFALL ESTIMATED BY MINRURAL DEVELOPMENT AT BETWEEN 65-70 PERCENT, REPRESENTING HARVEST OF BETWEEN 30 AND 40 THOUSAND MT VERSUS OPTIMUM 110 THOUSAND MT. PROSPECTS FOR BOTTOM LAND CULTIVATION EQUALLY BAD OWING SHORT DURATION SENEGAL RIVER FLOOD. PASTURAGE RELATIVELY POOR AND NOT EXPECTED SUPPORT CATTLE NOW MOVING RAPIDLY BACK INTO COUNTRY BEYOND THREE-FOUR MONTHS.

2. EMERGENCY GRAIN DELIVERIES. CEREALS RECEIVED TO DATE TOTAL 63,000 MT, OF WHICH ALL BUT ABOUT 2,000 MT RESERVE DISTRIBUTED. EXPECT DELIVERIES OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER AS FOLLOWS:

CANADA 5,900 MT HARD WHEAT ETA 15 OCT

FRANCE 5,000 MT SORGHUM ETA OCTOBER

FRG 4,000 MT WHEAT ETA OCTOBER

WFP (USA) 1,234 MT MAIZE ETA OCT 15

USA 16,000 MT WHEAT, MAIZE, SORGHUM ETA OCT 10-NOV 15

FOLLOWING DELIVERIES EXPECTED NOVEMBER - DECEMBER:

IRAQ 3,000 MT WHEAT ETA UNKNOWN

FED 5,000 MT MAIZE ETA UNKNOWN

USSR 3,000 MT RICE ETA UNKNOWN

TOTAL ALL ABOVE UNDELIVERED PLEDGES 45,134 MT.

3. AIRLIFT: LIBYAN C-130 AND FRENCH NORD ATLAS BOTH SCHEDULED DEPART OCTOBER 5. REPLACEMENT EITHER AIRCRAFT UNCERTAIN. FYI. THIS SUPERCEDES PREVIOUS REPORT THAT FRENCH NORD WOULD REMAIN INDEFINITELY. END FYI. ARRIVAL FRG C-160, REQUESTED FOR 10 OCTOBER, STILL UNCERTAIN. USAF C-130 EXPECTED BEGIN AIRLIFTING NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA ON OR ABOUT 8 OCTOBER. MINHEALTH HAS REQUESTED UN-FAO PROVIDE TWO RPT TWO UNCLASSIFIED

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ADDITIONAL C-130S BEGIN ASAP FOR ONE MONTH AIRLIFT DAKAR-AIOUN/KIFFA/NEMA. WFP REP RECOMMENDS POSITIVE RESPONSE THIS REQUEST AND NOTES THAT ROADS INTO FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD REGIONS LIKELY REMAIN IMPASSABLE THRU MID-NOVEMBER.

4. PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES NEED FOR 1974 CEREAL IMPORTS: 100,000 MT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION IN ADDITION TO UNDELIVERED PLEDGES ENUMERATED ABOVE.

5. ROAD TRANSPORT: GIRM EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF ROAD TRANSPORT FLEET NOW NUMBERS 170 TRUCKS. MINHEALTH ESTIMATES HE WILL NEED ADDITIONAL 50 RPT 50 TRUCKS CONTINUE OPERATIONS INTO 1974.

6. GIRM PLANS CREATE SPECIAL UNIT WITHIN AS YET UNNAMED MINISTRY ADMINISTER FUTURE RELIEF OPERATIONS. FYI. CURRENT EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR, MINHEALTH BAH, HOPES GIVE UP HIS OVERTAXING RELIEF DUTIES BY END THIS YEAR. END FYI. WFP REP RECOMMENDS UN CONSIDER POSSIBILITY PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THIS NEW UNIT IN AREAS OF TRANSPORT AND ACCOUNTING, AND SUGGESTS HIS HOME OFFICE APPROACH CANADIANS ALONG THESE LINES.

7. PLAN DISCUSS ALL ABOVE, AND PARTICULARLY PARA 5 AND 6 WITH FEI MISSION ARRIVING HERE TOMMORROW OCTTOBER 5. MURPHH

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